MR. K. SANKARAN: (*a*) The matter is under consideration.

(*b*) The present rates are generally lower.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No hardship exists due to lesser number of buses and in view of answer to part (*b*) the latter part does not arise.

Paddy cultivation in the State.

424. * MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total quantity of rice imported for the past 10 years average per year and the total area of paddy lands in the State; and

(*b*) whether on the face of the above situation, they have any scheme to increase the rice cultivation area?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: (*a*) A total quantity of 24,60,697 tons of rice was imported during the past 10 years. Average per year is 2,46,069·7 tons. The total area of paddy lands in the state is 6,52,615 acres.

(*b*) The matter is being considered.

Co-operative Societies.

425. * MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of co-operative societies in the file today and also the number of Inspectors now in active service?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: (1) Number of Co-operative Societies. 1485.

(2) Number of Inspectors 40.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know what is the number of societies over which a Co-operative Inspector has to function?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: On an average there will be about 50 societies over which an Inspector has to supervise.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: May I know whether there are supervisors for every taluk in general for supervising the work of the Co-operative Societies?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Every taluk has a supervisor.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: May I know the number of such supervisors?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I have no information on that point at present.

Dispensaries in Todupuzha taluk.

426. * MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from the public of Todupuzha requesting to open more dispensaries in Todupuzha taluk?

VAIDYASASTRAKUSALA DR. MRS. M. POONEN LUKOSE: Yes. There were requisitions for new dispensaries from certain pakuthies fo Todupuzha taluk.

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